

CLAIMS

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A system for administering a collaborative drayage community comprising:
 - a processor;
 - memory operationally attached to said processor;
 - an input device operationally attached to said processor;
 - storing means for storing:
 - a plurality of drayage resource data fields, and
 - drayage resource data associated with at least one drayage resource, said drayage resource data corresponding to at least one of said plurality of drayage resource data fields;
 - receiving means for receiving query data, said query data associated with at least one drayage need, and said query data corresponding to at least one of said plurality of drayage resource data fields;
 - retrieval means for retrieving, based on a match between said query data and said drayage resource data, a list of at least one drayage resource; and

delivery means for delivering said list of at least one drayage resource and said drayage resource data associated with each of said drayage resources.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein said drayage resource is a container.
3. The system of claim 1 wherein said drayage resource is a power unit.
4. The system of claim 1 wherein said drayage resource is a load.
5. The system of claim 1 wherein said drayage resource is a storage space.
6. The system of claim 1 wherein said drayage resource is a service.
7. The system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of drayage resource data fields comprises a controlling entity.
 8. The system of claim 2 wherein said controlling entity is an owner.
 9. The system of claim 2 wherein said controlling entity is a lessor.
10. The system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of drayage resource data fields comprises a resource type field.
11. The system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of drayage resource data fields comprises a serial number field.
12. The system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of drayage resource data fields comprises a physical location field.
13. The system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of drayage resource data fields comprises physical description field.

14. The system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of drayage resource data fields comprises a time available field.
15. The system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of drayage resource data fields comprises an acquisition fee field.
16. The system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of drayage resource data fields comprises a per diem rate field.
17. The system of claim 1 further comprising:
 - reserving means for reserving a drayage resource; and
 - confirming means for confirming the reservation of a drayage resource.
18. The system of claim 17 further comprising agreement proposal means for proposing an interchange agreement.
19. The system of claim 1 wherein said delivery means delivers exactly one drayage resource having resource data that best match said query data according to a predetermined matching algorithm.
20. A system for administering a collaborative drayage community comprising:
 - a processor;
 - memory operationally attached to said processor;
 - an input device operationally attached to said processor;
 - a storage device for storing:

a plurality of drayage resource data fields, and
drayage resource data associated with at least one drayage
resource, said drayage resource data corresponding to at least one
of said plurality of drayage resource data fields;
a receiving unit for receiving query data, said query data associated
with at least one drayage need, and said query data
corresponding to at least one of said plurality of drayage
resource data fields;
a retrieval unit for retrieving, based on a match between said query
data and said drayage resource data, a list of at least one
drayage resource; and
a delivery unit for delivering said list of drayage resources and said
drayage resource data associated with each of said drayage
components.

21. A method for administering a collaborative drayage community
comprising the steps of:

gathering data from drayage community participants regarding said
participants' drayage resources;
causing said data to be stored;
gathering query data;

comparing said query data against said drayage resource data; and
identifying said drayage resources having resource data that match
said query data.

22. The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of reserving at least one of said drayage resources having resource data that match said query data.
23. The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of confirming a reservation for a drayage resource.
24. The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of executing an interchange agreement.
25. The method of claim 21 wherein said step of identifying said drayage resources having resource data that match said query data is accomplished according to a predetermined matching algorithm.
26. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage community participants include drayage operators.
27. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage community participants include drayage brokers.
28. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage community participants include owner-operators.

29. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage community participants include intermodal marketing companies.
30. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage community participants include line-haul operators.
31. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage resources include containers.
32. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage resources include power units.
33. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage resources include loads.
34. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage resources include storage spaces.
35. The method of claim 21 wherein said drayage resources include services.